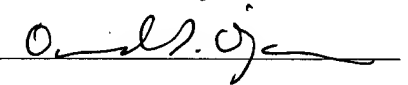




PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/889,489
Filing Date: July 17, 2001
Title: **Numerically Controlled Machine Tool**
Inventor(s): Shinji Koike
Examiner: Dana Ross
Art Unit: 3722

<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING DATE OF DEPOSIT: March 1, 2004</p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, postage paid, as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. §1.8, on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</p> <p align="center">Name of person mailing paper or fee:</p> <p align="center">Ourmazd S. Ojan</p> <p>Signature: <u></u></p>

Atty. Docket: 173-01
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED
MAR 09 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed on December 1, 2003, and having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 1, 2004. This response is being filed within the shortened statutory period for response and is intended to fulfil the submission require for the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) that is being filed herewith. A check in the amount of \$770.00 for the RCE filing fee is also enclosed herewith. In addition, a check in the amount of \$172.00 for the 2 added independent claims is enclosed herewith. No additional fees are believed to be required at this time. In the event that additional fees are required with respect to this communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees, or credit any overpayment, to Paul & Paul deposit account number 16-0750.

Please amend the application as follows:

03/05/2004 HVUONG1 00000104 09889489
02 FC:1201 172.00 0P